

A FURTHER PERFIN MACHINE

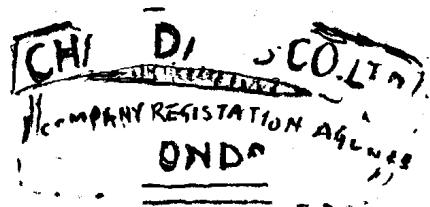
By Ken Dee

How coincidental is Dr Tony Llewellyn-Edwards' discovery. (Bulletin 296 Pg.6) His description could almost apply to my machine. (See Bulletin 296 New Identities Page 96).

My original experiment was with a jig I made years ago for drilling printed circuit boards using a matrix of 8x14 holes at 0.1" pitch. Making a perspex plate and transferring the appropriate holes one at a time with a punch mounted in a (non-rotating) drilling machine, I adapted it to produce "K.D" but each hole had to be punched separately and it was too large for normal definitive size stamps. I have done no more than 10 horizontal 2nd class NVI stamps and will not continue with this.

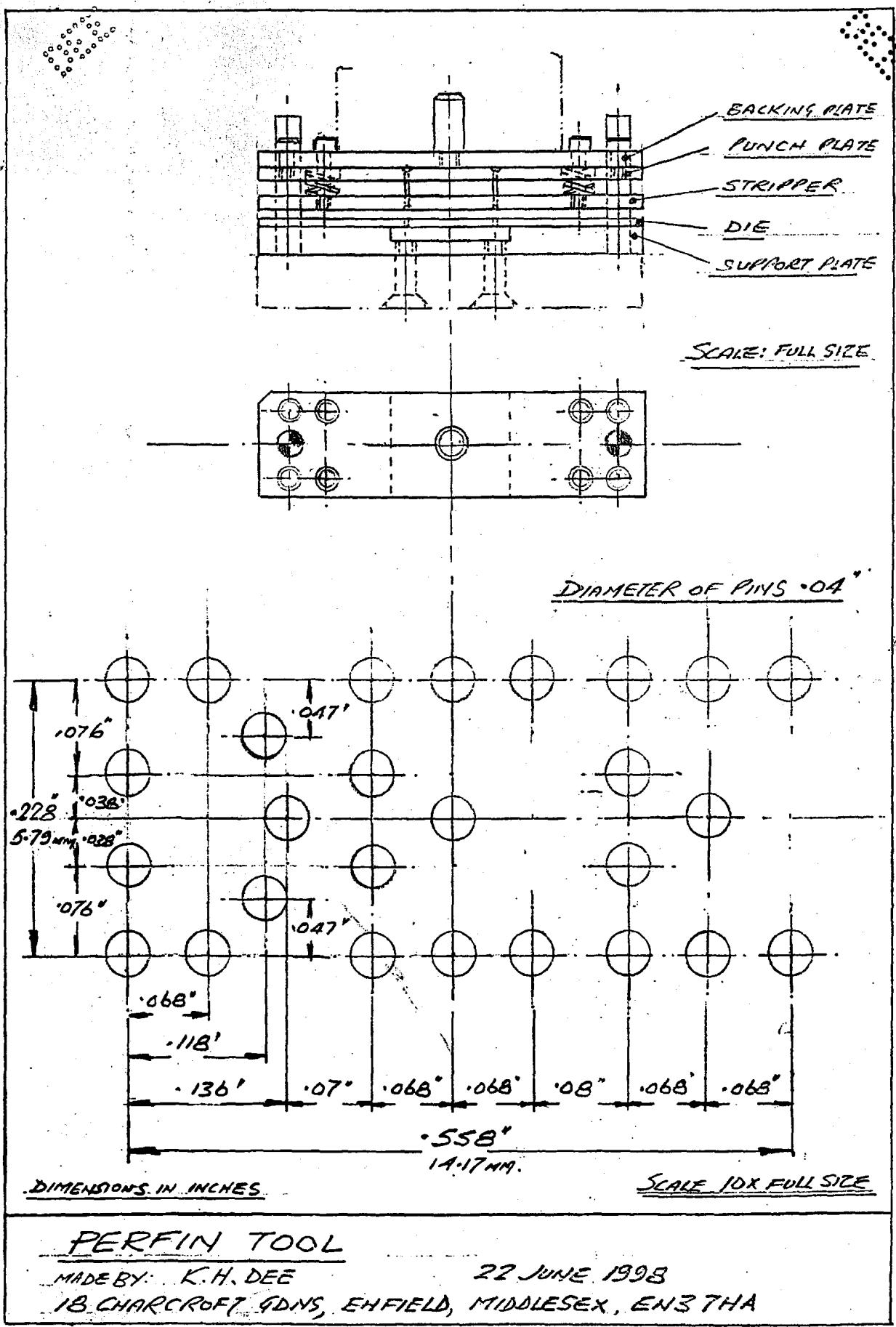
The 1/16" diameter holes were really too large and so in my next experiment I made a complete tool with holes 0.04" diameter and chose a full name so that it could be used by other members of my family.

The tool was made to the standard engineering practice for piercing tools and mounted on an embossing press that I bought at a car boot sale. Like Tony's this had a cast iron frame painted black with gold coloured floral pattern transfers and the remnants of a makers' name. If anyone can fill in the details I shall be pleased to hear.



The embossing dies were steel on White Metal and also of very poor workmanship

My tool consists of; a steel backing plate - to take the thrust of the punches (pins) which are slightly headed to prevent them being pulled out: a brass punch plate - to locate the pins: a spring loaded brass stripper plate - to hold down the stamp as the pins are retracted: and a steel die plate. The whole assembly being located by two 3/16" diameter pins onto a base plate cut away to allow the pierced bits to fall into a little drawer.



The die plate was accurately marked out and drilled and then used as a jig for drilling the stripper plate and punch plate, to ensure alignment. Since the depth of the holes were some seven times the diameter of the drill, I used brass where possible to make drilling easier and reduce the chance of breakage.

I found self adhesive stamps, on their backing paper, produced sharper and cleaner holes; so now I use a piece of the backing when piercing normal stamps.

I keep a record of what I have perfinned. So far to date (14-10-98) I have used 110 Machins from 1p to 31p and all with elliptical perfs.

The illustration on the previous page is Ken's technical drawing for his perfin machine. Due to reduction in size for the Bulletin this is no longer to scale.

(Comments on Bulletin 296 Page 6)

It has been pointed out by more than one member that the perfin machine bought and adapted by Tony Llewelyn-Edwards would almost certainly have been for validating ballot papers.

The perfin machine used by your Editor for a personal 'Cross' perfin is an aluminium ballot validating machine, very much more modern (common and nasty looking!!) than the original cast iron illustrated models, but it too has a 5x5 matrix.

Found at the London Meeting

Some strips of GVI dark colours (1½d) and dark 2d Wildings were left behind. Send to Rosemary if they are yours. Identify the perfin!!

'Manners'

Write in with the details if you know anything of General Robert Manners (d.1782); General Manners (d.1822); George Manners (d.1828).